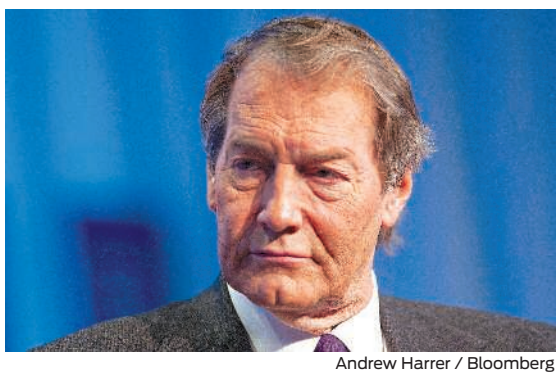
NATION

CBS, PBS cut ties with Charlie Rose

The longtime newsman and interviewer is the latest to be exposed. **B1**

▸▸ House Ethics Committee opens probe into Congressman John Conyers. **A11**



Andrew Harrer / Bloomberg

BUSINESS

FCC to vote on ending net neutrality rules

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OBITUARY

David Cassidy, 67, of 'Partridge Family' dies

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San Antonio Express-News

ExpressNews.com and mySA.com | **Wednesday, November 22, 2017** | The voice of South Texas since 1865

Agent's death is probed as assault

But other causes not ruled out in border case

By Jason Buch
STAFF WRITER

The FBI is investigating the death of a Border Patrol agent in West Texas as an assault on a federal officer, but officials Tuesday said they're not ruling out other possibilities.

Meanwhile, the sheriff of the county where Agent Rogelio Martinez was killed said the injuries he and another agent suffered were consistent with a fall.

The FBI is offering a $25,000 reward for information about Martinez's death. The state of Texas is offering a $20,000 reward.

Speaking at a news conference Tuesday in El Paso, FBI Special Agent in Charge Emmerson Buie Jr. said the investigation into Martinez's death is ongoing and agents are trying to determine if he was attacked, as union officials and President Donald Trump have said. Few other details were released.

"Right now again we're investigating this matter as a potential assault on a federal officer, and we're trying to gather the facts," Buie said in a video posted online by reporters in El Paso. "And if the facts support that, we'll pursue it legally. If they support that the incident was caused by something else, then we'll present that. So at this time we are pursuing it as an assault on a

Death continues on A7

300th birthday planning debated

Brockhouse wants KSAT deal ended

By Scott Huddleston
STAFF WRITER

The new executive in charge of the city's Tricentennial celebration sought to reassure City Council members Tuesday that despite its bumpy start, the event still is on track and predicted it will put San Antonio on a world stage.

Assistant City Manager Carlos Contreras has held his new role as interim Tricentennial CEO for only a week, following the abrupt resignation of Edward Benavides amid criticism over a lack of funding and the commission's contracting process.

Reporting to the council for the first time, Contreras said he would alert the council if he finds any indications of improper past activity.

He said a media partnership with KSAT-TV

300th continues on A8

William Luther / San Antonio Express-News

The H-E-B Christmas tree lighting ceremony will take place Friday, along with Centro San Antonio's annual lighting of Travis Park the same evening.

Some say, 'Humbug!' to tree move

They think that giant fir should be in Alamo Plaza

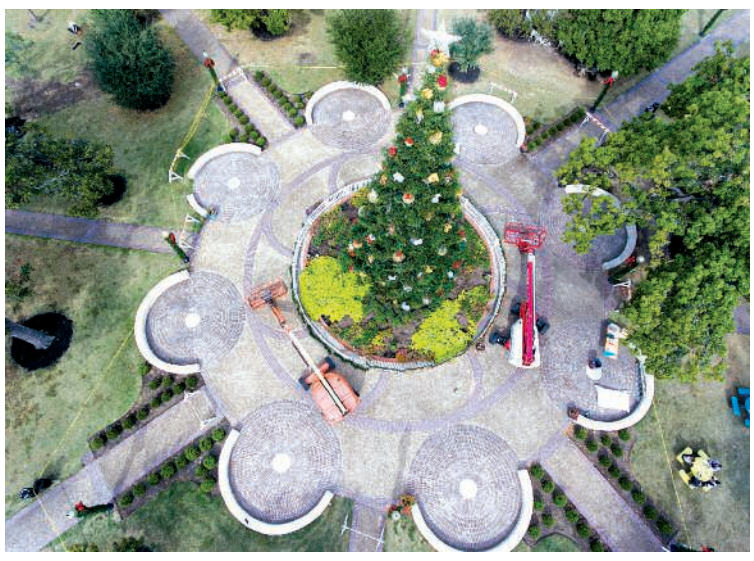
By René A. Guzman
STAFF WRITER

For more than a generation, San Antonians have huddled at the Alamo the day after Thanksgiving to witness a good five stories of decorated Christmas tree beam to life with lights that herald another merry Yuletide season in ol' San Antone.

Now that the 33-year celebration has moved from Alamo Plaza to Travis Park, many locals still are crying, "Bah, humbug!" at the relocation of the big tree, what they see as an unnecessary change to a picture-perfect tradition. The bitter, often expletive-riddled complaints are all over social media and even inspired a small protest.

At Travis Park on Friday, a 55-foot white fir from H-E-B will shine with more than 10,000 LED lights and custom ornaments.

That tree lighting ceremony will get an extra boost with Centro San Antonio's annual lighting of Travis Park, which boasts more than 250,000 lights and oodles of family-friendly activities in the surrounding park area.



The giant Christmas tree at Travis Park will see its share of fun with free movie nights, live music, photos with Santa and other activities through December.

Alamo Plaza still will have a large Christmas tree, albeit an 18-footer also provided by H-E-B, and that should be up Monday. But it's hardly a bright spot for those who hate to say goodbye to such a time-honored tradition at such an iconic landmark.

"I'm glad to know there's going to be a tree there (at Alamo Plaza)," San Antonian Gabriel Cantu said. "But who's going to go to Travis Park for the tree that should be there at the Alamo? I tell you, I'm not going to Travis Park."

For almost every holiday season since around 1990 when he was in high school, Cantu has made a pilgrimage to Alamo Plaza to bask in the

Tree continues on A7

Carolyn Kaster / Associated Press

Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, used much of his first term in office to run for president and engage in fierce ideological battles.

Cruz now facing challenger from within the GOP

By Kevin Diaz
WASHINGTON BUREAU

WASHINGTON — Amid talk of a Democratic "blue wave" threatening Republicans in 2018, Texas Sen. Ted Cruz faces a new conservative challenge from an unexpected quarter: A Christian TV executive who works for James Robison — the North Texas megachurch preacher who is one of President Donald Trump's closest spiritual advisers.

Bruce Jacobson Jr., executive producer of Robinson's "Life Today" TV show, say he's ready to take on Cruz's formidable statewide political organization "with humility," touting his faith and his biography in the administrations of Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush.

Cruz continues on A8

WEATHER

HIGH **66** LOW **38** Sunny
Full report, C8

TRICENTENNIAL

Heritage student tours have 60 years of history. **Page A10**

365 days of tacos

Carne guisada on a flour tortilla from Papa Nono's Mexican Grill. **ExpressNews.com/Tacos**

153rd year, No. 53.
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